



Department of State

TELEGRAM

DOS Review Completed.

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 1020

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NODIS

FOR THE SECRETARY FROM TOON

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFDR LE IS SY

SUBJ: LEBANON

REF: STATE 086650

1. I CALLED ON ALLON SUNDAY MORNING APRIL 11 TO CONVEY THE POINTS IN REFTEL. I HAD ASKED FOR AN APPOINTMENT AFTER THE WEEKLY CABINET MEETING IN ORDER TO MINIMIZE THE NUMBER OF PERSONS WITH WHOM ALLON MIGHT SHARE THE INFORMATION. HE WAS UNABLE TO MEET LATER BECAUSE OF HIS COMMITMENTS TO VISITING SOUTH AFRICAN PRIME MINISTER VORSTER BUT HE ASSURED ME THE CONTENTS OF YOUR MESSAGE WOULD BE SHARED ONLY WITH RABIN, PERES AND A FEW CLOSE ADVISORS.

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DISGUISED AS SAIRA FORCES, THE MOVEMENT ACROSS THE BORDER OF SYRIAN ARMOR WAS A DEVELOPMENT OF DIFFERENT MAGNITUDE,

3. HE SAID HE WOULD HAVE AGREED WITH YOUR ASSESSMENT THAT SYRIAN MOVEMENTS WERE DESIGNED TO EXERT POLITICAL PRESSURE UNTIL LAST NIGHT, I.E., THE ENTRY OF THE ARMORED BRIGADE. WHILE THEY ARE PRESENTLY ONLY FIVE KILOMETERS INSIDE THE BORDER, THEY MIGHT NEXT SAY IT IS NECESSARY TO MOVE ANOTHER FIVE TO PROTECT A CERTAIN VILLAGE, THEN ANOTHER FIVE FOR ANOTHER OBJECTIVE, UNTIL THEY END UP WITH A DEEP PENETRATION. HE SAID WHAT HAS HAPPENED IN THE PAST 24 HOURS HAS NOT BROUGHT HIM TO THE POINT OF PROPOSING A COUNTER-INTERVENTION, BUT IT HAS MADE HIM THINK MORE CAREFULLY ABOUT THAT POSSIBILITY. HE FELT AS A RESULT OF OVERNIGHT DEVELOPMENT, WE WERE NOW AT THE "RED LINE". HE SAID HE WAS SPEAKING NOT ONLY AS ISRAELI FOREIGN MINISTER BUT AS SOMEONE WITH A KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE MIDDLE EAST AND THE ARABS WHEN HE SAID THAT THE PERTINENT FACTOR HAS BEEN THE CROSSING OF THE BORDER WITH ARMORED UNITS. HE CONCLUDED BY SAYING THAT IT IS IMPORTANT THAT WE REMAIN IN CLOSE TOUCH, BOTH

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4. AFTER THE MEETING, I AGREED WITH EVRON THAT IF ASKED BY THE PRESS ABOUT THE MEETING, WE WOULD SAY THAT I HAD REQUESTED THE MEETING AS PART OF OUR SERIES OF ONGOING EXCHANGES OF VIEWS ON DEVELOPMENTS OF CONCERN TO BOTH COUNTRIES.

TOON

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